

for use in procurement but does not meet an agency's essential needs, exceptions to the product description to effect procurement may be authorized as follows:

(a) All exceptions to Federal telecommunications standards require prior approval by the Assistant Administrator for Information Resources Management, General Services Administration, Washington, DC 20405.

(b) Preparing activities may designate specific product descriptions that require approval of exceptions by the preparing activity before use.

(c) Exceptions to Federal product descriptions that do not require prior approval under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section may be authorized by the acquiring agency if:

(1) Justifications for exceptions are subject to review before authorization and that such justification can be fully substantiated if post audit is required;

(2) Notification of exception or recommendation for change to the Federal product description is sent promptly to the preparing activity and the General Services Administration (FCO), Washington, DC 20406.

(A statement of the exception with a justification and, where applicable, recommendation for revision or amendment to the description)

**§ 101-29.403-2 Agency responsibility relative to exceptions to Federal product descriptions.**

Each agency taking exceptions shall establish procedures whereby a designated official having substantial procurement responsibility shall be responsible for assuring that Federal product descriptions are used and provisions for exceptions are complied with.

**§ 101-29.403-3 Tailoring of Federal product descriptions.**

Product descriptions prepared to define and impose performance characteristics, engineering disciplines, and manufacturing practices such as reliability, system safety, quality assurance, maintainability, configuration management, and the like shall be tailored in accordance with their specific application in acquisitions.

**Subpart 101-29.5—Use of and Optional Use of Federal Product Descriptions and Agency Product Descriptions**

**§ 101-29.501 Optional use of interim Federal specifications.**

Interim Federal specifications are for optional use. All agencies are urged to make maximum use of them and to submit suggested changes to the preparing activity for consideration in further development of the specifications for promulgation as Federal specifications or commercial item descriptions. Interim revisions or interim amendments to Federal specifications are for optional use as valid exceptions to the Federal specifications so revised or amended and must, therefore, be specifically identified by symbol and date in the invitation for bids or request for proposal.

**§ 101-29.502 Use of Federal specifications and interim Federal specifications in Federal construction contracts.**

When material, equipment, or services covered by an available Federal specification or interim Federal specification are specified in connection with Federal construction, the Federal specification or interim Federal specification shall be made part of the specification for the construction contract, subject to provisions in §§ 101-29.402, 101-29.403, and 101-29.501.

**§ 101-29.503 Agency product descriptions.**

When a Federal product description is not available, existing agency product descriptions should be used by all agencies consistent with each agency's procedures for establishing priority for use of such descriptions.

**PART 101-30—FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM**

Sec.

101-30.000 Scope of part.

101-30.001 Applicability.

**Subpart 101-30.1—General**

101-30.100 Scope of subpart.

101-30.101 Definitions.

101-30.101-1 Civil agency item.